## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 GSA-02 INT-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 OES-07 /100 W

-----050604 100744Z/21

P R 100646Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7353
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ITC, GSA, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN REACTION TO GSA TIN DISPOSALS AND COPPER ACQUISITION

**REF: STATE 058800** 

1. UPON RECEIPT OF REFTEL MARCH 9 WE ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT MINISTER OF MINES SADLI OR, ALTERNATIVELY, DEPARTMENT OF MINING SECGEN SIGIT, BUT BOTH MEN WERE IN SINGAPORE ON BRIEF VISIT. WE SUCCEEDED IN CONTACTING SIRMAN WIDIATMO, INDONESIAN DELEGATE TO THE ITC AND AN ADVISER TO THE GOI ON OTHER INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY MATTERS INCLUDING COOPER. SIRMAN IS ALSO A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND IS PREOCCUPIED WITH CURRENT PARLIAMENTARY SESSION SO WE PROVIDED HIM WITH WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF UDALL-DECONCINI PROPOSAL AND OF OTHER POINTS MADE REFTEL. WE ALSO PROVIDED WRITTEN EXPLANATION FOR SIGIT.

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2. SIRMAN CALLED EMBOFF TODAY, MARCH 10, AND SAID HE WOULD BE MEETING WITH SADLI AND SIGIT LATER IN DAY TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER. MEANWHILE, HE PROVIDED FOLLOWING INITIAL REACTION: "MOST IMPORTANT POINT IS THE 'HOW' OF DISPOSALS. USG WILL BE UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM COPPER PRODUCERS TO SPEED UP DISPOSALS SO AS TO ACQUIRE COPPER, BUT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT DISPOSALS BE

HANDLED IN SUCH A WAY AS NOT TO DISRUPT THE INTERNATIONAL TIN MARKET. IF TIN PRICES ARE DEPRESSED TO NEAR THE \$1300 FLOOR PRICE, INDONESIA FOR ONE WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO INVEST IN NEW PRODUCTION CAPACITY." (FYI: INDONESIA PLANS TO INCREASE ANNUAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY BY BETWEEN 3,000 AND 4,000 TONS TO OVER 28,000 TONS THIS YEAR.) FINALLY, SIRMAN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MODALITIES OF DISPOSAL AT NEXT ITC MEETING APRIL 10.

3. EMBOFF REITERATED ASSURANCES CONTAINED REFTEL. MASTERS

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: TIN, COPPER, ACQUISITION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS

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